

"This region is essential in helping Americans and visitors understand our history," Kellogg said.

The Hallowed Grounds partnership was created several years back by Magennis Wyatt, a former Virginia secretary of commerce, and others worried about development's effect on the historic area. They were motivated, in part, by Disney's attempt in the 1990s to create a historic theme park in the region and by proposals to build a casino in Gettysburg and condos near Monticello.

"It was apparent that we were taking a lot for granted," Magennis Wyatt said, "not just the bricks and mortar but the people who lived on this land and created this country."

Ellen Vogel, a landscape architect with the Virginia Department of Transportation, said another challenge of the project is finding enough space for the trees in the corridor, about half of which is in Virginia. She said VDOT worked to provide the necessary guidance and flexibility.

"It's great that Virginia has a scenic byway. There are so few of those across the country," Vogel said. "But we have a lot of history here. I think it's fitting."

Hart's great-great-uncles Charles and William Davis and Jason Hart were killed in the war. His great-great-grandfather James Hart was wounded twice but survived.

"You combine my love for my family history and my love for trees and this living legacy project has captured me," Hart said.

Shott, who flew to Virginia for the ceremony last month, said he visited Bosworth's grave in Sharpsburg, Md., early that Sunday to pay his respects before going to see the rising sun redbud planted in the soldier's honor.

"I just try to understand why they did what they did to the point they'd die for something they believed in," Shott said. "The least we can do is remember them."

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT ANTON F. JACKS, LEGION d'HONNEUR FOR U.S. VETERANS RECIPIENT

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Anton F. Jacks for receiving the Legion d'Honneur for U.S. Veterans Award for heroic service in connection with military operations in Lorient, France.

Sergeant Jacks committed an exceptionally heroic action on August 31, 1944, while serving in the Army Corps of Engineers, Company "A", 25th Armored Engineer Battalion, in the United States Army.

On that day, Sergeant Jacks was assigned to guard a farm house that served as an allied forces outpost in the vicinity of Lorient. While on guard, Sergeant Jacks made the heroic decision to establish a series of booby traps around the perimeter to provide protection for his unit and innocent French civilians in the area. When a unit of German soldiers attempted to attack and overthrow the farm house, the traps prevented the German soldiers from infiltrating the allied perimeter.

As stated by Captain Richard H. Brooks, "the outpost was attacked by a numerically superior force of German soldiers. At 0845 the attacking enemy, failing to penetrate the cou-

rageous fighting men of the outpost, withdrew."

Mr. Speaker, without question, Sergeant Jacks is a hero. His personal bravery, and heroic conduct are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Corps of Engineers, and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a very grateful nation, please join me in recognizing and thanking Sergeant Anton F. Jacks for his acts of valor.

H.R. 4719, THE AMERICA GIVES MORE ACT OF 2014

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4719, the America Gives More Act of 2014, and in particular in support of the provision that would make the current tax deduction for the contribution of conservation easements permanent. As a cosponsor of similar legislation, I am pleased to see this provision included in the bill. In my home state of Idaho, I have repeatedly seen the positive impact of conservation easements. One of my favorite stretches of river in Idaho is the South Fork of the Snake, near Idaho Falls, where I live. It is a great place to fish, watch bald eagles, or enjoy the beauty of nature without interruption, and this is due in large part to the fact that conservation easements protect the land on the river from development and created wonderful areas for recreation.

More importantly, however, conservation easements have a significant benefit to our economy in Idaho. Farming and ranching have long been a way of life in my state, but increasingly what was once vast swaths of ranchland is being broken up into smaller parcels for development. The conservation easement tax incentive gives many farmers and ranchers the option to put some of their land into conservation easements, protecting habitat and scenic landscapes, instead of selling to developers. In addition, easements that allow for continued agricultural use provide certainty for those who want to keep ranching and farming.

I am pleased that this provision was included in the bill, and I look forward to seeing it benefit willing landowners who are working together with land management agencies to preserve the open spaces in Idaho.

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of a segment of northern Cyprus. This invasion has since morphed into a prolonged occupation in which an estimated 43,000 Turkish sol-

diers are deployed in the occupied territory, and tens of thousands of Turkish citizens have migrated to the island since 1974. Turkey's invasion and occupation of northern Cyprus has created yet another long-running international conflict, one that continues to destabilize the eastern Mediterranean region.

I agree with those in the international community who assert that a peaceful, long-term resolution of this conflict must include the establishment of a unified Republic of Cyprus, in which the religious, cultural and political beliefs of all Cypriots can be expressed through a truly democratic political process. I am encouraged by the democratic selection of new leadership in the Republic of Cyprus, and reassured by the willingness of Turkish-Cypriot leaders to continue a dialogue about potential reunification. These are signs that a peaceful resolution is possible, but a key component of any long-term settlement must include the withdrawal of Turkish military forces from the island.

A long-term, peaceful resolution of the Cyprus standoff is not simply in the interest of the island's Greek and Turkish inhabitants. A successful resolution of this conflict would remove a major obstacle to Turkey's integration with the rest of Europe, a development that would enhance the security and economic wellbeing of millions of people in the region. Our government should be working daily to facilitate that outcome, and I will certainly use every opportunity available to me to make that point to Administration officials.

RECOGNIZING THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the amount of information that passes through a Congressional office on a daily basis is astounding. While the morning might see me and my staff meeting with one group of constituents on the perils of climate change, and another on the need for universal advanced care directives, the evening may bring a bill on mining rights or international trade to the floor of the House of Representatives. All of these discussions, decisions, and debates require me and my staff to have access to vast amounts of unbiased information that we can trust. We have no greater resource than the Congressional Research Service.

The experts at CRS work with incredible speed and accuracy to get my office the information we need. Whenever we are drafting legislation or looking for more background as we delve into complicated policy, CRS is always a first call. Over the years, we have come back to certain experts again and again and are always increasingly impressed at the depth of their knowledge of their subject matters.

Congratulations to CRS on its 100th anniversary. I hope that this vital institution remains vibrant as our government strives toward a better and more nuanced understanding of the issues and challenges we face as a country.